

that freedom might be preserved. Let all Americans give these veterans a helping hand in their readjustment to civilian life.

Let us, as a people, give them our gratitude and our prayers.

I direct the appropriate officials of Government to arrange for the display of the flag of the United States on that day. And I request the officials of Federal, State and local governments, schools, civic and patriotic organizations to give their enthusiastic support and leadership to appropriate public ceremonies throughout the Nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-fifth day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-seventh.



PROCLAMATION 4160

National Heritage Day

September 30, 1972

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

The special quality of the United States is the interaction of many peoples from many lands, each asserting the freedom to be different, each respecting and honoring his own ethnic heritage, while contributing to a nation in which all are Americans together.

The shining guarantee of our national future is precisely the repeated rebirth, the reinvigoration, the gift of renewal, implicit in this constant meeting of the world's peoples here in our own land.

The unusual virtue of the United States is that all men and women are accepted for what they are, with friendship and respect founded upon knowledge and understanding of all races, creeds, and national origins.

The "melting pot" is one of unity, but never of uniformity.

The national pride of the United States is, in this sense, pride of our people in the heritage we draw from all nations.

In order that we may pause for a moment to express our appreciation of America's heritage, the Congress, by House Joint Resolution 1304, has requested the President to issue a proclamation designating Sunday, October 1, 1972, as National Heritage Day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim Sunday, October 1, 1972, as National Heritage Day. I call upon all Americans to reflect upon the composite vitality, enthusiasm and tenacity of the many separate peoples who have built our beloved country, and to celebrate, with appropriate ceremonies, the fact that our one nation is many nations, and our many nations are one nation, dedicated to freedom, under God.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirtieth day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-seventh.



PROCLAMATION 4161

Columbus Day, 1972

By the President of the United States of America

October 3, 1972

A Proclamation

On Columbus Day, 1972, we once again celebrate the memorable achievements of the great navigator and explorer whose vision and daring led to much of the permanent settlement of the Americas by the peoples of Europe.

When Christopher Columbus, a son of Italy sailing in the service of Spain, crossed the uncharted ocean sea in 1492, he helped to open a new chapter in the history of mankind. Columbus was among the first in a long series of courageous trail blazers, who have moved us forward across perilous areas of sea, land, and space in pursuit of greater knowledge of the globe and its surroundings.

All Americans take pride in recalling the accomplishments of Columbus. We count the memory of his courage in confronting unknown dangers and his indomitable faith in overcoming the setbacks which preceded his voyage as among the ideals which helped to shape the American character.

In tribute to the achievements of Columbus, the Congress of the United States, by joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), as modified by the act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as Columbus Day.

5 USC 6103.